

Western Canal
Lowell, Massachusetts
Middlesex County

HAER No. MA-5

HAER
MASS.
9-LOW,
12-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

WESTERN CANAL

HAER MA-5C

HAER
MASS,
9-LOW,
12-

DATE: 1831-32

LOCATION: Between the Pawtucket River and the Merrimack Canal,
Lowell, Massachusetts

DESIGNED BY: Unknown

OWNER: Proprietors of Locks and Canals,
Lowell, Massachusetts

SIGNIFICANCE: The Western Canal was the only power canal in Lowell
to be built on two levels, though the Pawtucket Canal
also had an upper and a lower level. Construction on
two levels meant that the same water could power more
than one mill. More extensive information can be
found in HAER No. MA-1, Lowell Canal System.

TRANSMITTED BY: Monica E. Hawley, Historian, 1983